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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

SEP 20 2007

Claims 1 to 18, 32 to 36: (Cancelled without prejudice)

The following amendment to Claim 19 is proposed:

19: An electronic stethoscope with expanded program execution and communications capability, comprising:

a portable housing in the physical form of a stethoscope that is wearable around the neck or shoulders of an operator, to house further elements comprising central processing unit,

nonvolatile digital memory means selected from a group consisting of Flash memory, EEPROM, and magnetic media,

one or more software programs, executable by said central processing unit, which expand the functions executed by said stethoscope,

said functions comprising medical measurement, information processing and communications functions,

digital communications means,

wherein said software programs are transferred via said digital communications means, stored in said nonvolatile digital memory means, and executed by said central processing unit.

The following amendment to Claim 35 is proposed:

35: An electronic stethoscope with expanded patient information acquisition capability, comprising:

a portable housing in the physical form of a stethoscope that is wearable around the neck or shoulders of an operator, to house further elements of the invention comprising; central processing unit,

battery power supply,

physiological measurement means for detecting and reproducing body sounds, video input means to record still or moving images of a patient,

wherein said central processing unit and said battery power supply provide control and electrical power respectively to all of said physiological and video input means, and said housing provides a unified portable platform for housing, carrying and operating said elements.

Claims to be withdrawn: Claims 20 and 21.

In response to Examiner Request, the following minor amendments are proposed for claims 22-30 and claim 36 to include the word "said" as required and requested by Examiner:

22. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said digital memory means is physically removable from electronic stethoscope housing.

23. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said digital communications means is a wired cable.

24. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said digital communications means is an infrared optical communications link.

25. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said digital communications means is a wireless communications link.

26. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said digital communications means is a wireless communications means physically removable from said electronic stethoscope housing.

27. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said digital communications means uses an 802.11 communications protocol.

28. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said digital communications means uses an Internet protocol selected from the group TCP/IP, FTP, PPP communications protocols.

29. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said one or more software programs are medical information software programs selected from the group drug dosage database access software, drug interaction database access software, medical research database access software.

30. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 29 further comprising a barcode reader operatively connected to said central processing unit such that database reading and writing can be effected by barcode scanner input.

31. The electronic stethoscope as in Claim 19 wherein said software includes algorithms for the processing of auscultation sounds.

Claim 36: Cancelled